

We are certain that the tax-payers of this city and county, and honest industrious folks everywhere, read the proceedings of the meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, as reported in the Journal, yesterday, with much interest and indignation. In these piping times of baseness, stagnation and want it is enough to make the blood course through our veins more quickly to see how the county has been "outraged," to use the language of the Chairman, in trying to employ a man to express his opinion of the county which has been robbed, and with the knowledge and consent of the Commissioners themselves. And after the details of the "outrage" are brought to light and exposed, how one of these Commissioners openly espoused the cause of the beneficiary of the "outrage," how one sat in approving silence, and how two others timidly fled from all responsibility. Only one of five Commissioners had the courage or the disposition even to ensure an employee who had proved unworthy of their confidence and sympathy, and who had surreptitiously obtained money for which he had rendered no service.

In the first place the Board of County Commissioners had awarded a contract to a stranger, whose business character was not above suspicion, to do a work for which he had gained in his travels and experience among men, with the determination of again imparting it to the civilization of all moniedom; and, like Ophreys, burst with public zeal to a moneys task.

Escaping from his oars, he felt himself fully equal to his self-imposed labors, and "broad with applause, he thought his
military art refined."

His hairy sylvans pressed around him and were astounded at his strut and dress. Some praised his sleeve; and others chattered in ecstasy at his richly embroidered coat;

"With the black tail behind, depending;

He exhibited to the assembled monkeys, the manners and customs, and described the arts and wiles of men, as he understood them; finishing his first lesson of instruction as follows:

"I knew the great. Observe me right; So shall you grow, like man, polite."

Thus the Southern negro, through the chance results of an armed revolution which leveled to the dust well nigh all that was good, and raised in prominence all that was evil, in a Republican form of government, escaped from his captivity, and like Gay's monkey, has put on the strut and "fluttering shoulder-knot" of those he would imitate, and has sought the high places of teacher and ruler. This is the difference, however. Gay's monkey taught and ruled only monkey—the negro seeks to govern those whom he once served, with no other qualification than the insignia of his office. This difference would only have the effect of making his wisdom appear the more ridiculous in the light of civilization, except it be to those who are compelled to sit under the droppings of his sanctuary. They fail to see where the joke comes in.

The sections of North Carolina that are under the rule of the negro and carpet bagger, have, for ten weary years, groaned under the oppressive weight of their burdens. They have been robbed and plundered; and what were once known as the people's courts of justice are not, but caricatures of the name, filled by persons who are powerful for evil and powerless for good."

The good people of these sections have borne up under these burdens with courageous manhood, knowing there was no relief to be expected from any quarter. They have struggled, as best they might, against corruption, against oppressive taxation, against insolent and costly ignorance. But these struggles have been the struggles of impotence, and have generally resulted in defeat and disaster.

At length, however, a star of hope and promise has risen, and when this hope and promise shall be realized—the reality that the people of North Carolina have in Convention assembled for the purpose of redressing grievances, and shaping a Constitutional government for themselves, as magistrates of men as these and the hundreds of others we could name among the living and the dead, within our recollection, was a system far preferable to the one that gives us as magistrates, the negroes. C. H. Hill, Anthony Howe and W. H. Moore.

Which is to be preferred, the system that gives us as a magistrate a negro so steeped in ignorance and superstition as to order a prisoner charged with murder to be taken from jail, carried to the dead body of the murdered man and forced to touch it in order to test his guilt, believing that if the prisoner was guilty and should touch the dead body, the accusing blood would gush from its veins, or is that system to be preferred that gave us as magistrates such men as RUPPIN, MANGUM, BADGER and CLARK?

Let us then return to the old path, and as soon as the Constitution shall be secured, let the Convention be changed so that the magistrates shall once more be elected by the Legislature, and so soon as they are elected with the management of county affairs. Then, and not until then shall we have relief.

It has been and ever shall be our aim to speak frankly and honestly upon matters political, as upon other matters, and we do not hesitate to say that if the Convention to assemble in September shall not give us of the East, the relief we demand in this matter of our county governments we shall regard the Convention as a failure.

It was to secure to our suffering people this great blessing that we labored so long and so earnestly to secure the call of that body. We speak plainly because the time has come to speak plainly. The evils flowing from the present system of county governments do not bear so hardly upon the people of the West as they do upon our people, and for the reason that the negro population there is comparatively small.

I hope that Col. Lamb will be present at the appointed time, and how glad would be the hearts of all if Gen. Whiting too could be present, but he fills a soldier's grave. I would be glad to meet with all of friends, and to tell them of the joys of military life.

That nearly every person of the net earnings of a people should be annihilated by fire, is by no means an evidence of prudence. And a large portion of this destruction is preventable by proper caution.

The wife of Senator Sharon of New Jersey died in Washington and was buried in a coffin of solid silver. Her funeral dress was of white satin with silk embroidery, and for a serious reflection. That nearly every person of the net earnings of a people should be annihilated by fire, is by no means an evidence of prudence. And a large portion of this destruction is preventable by proper caution.

A young lady of New Orleans took prurient acid because General Philip Sheridan married another girl. She wanted to be a bandit, but the other girl forbade the ban. We are glad to say that we are not, we cannot believe they would be willing to sacrifice us. Unless we are wrong

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THE CONVENTION—ONE THING IT MUST DO.

There are two propositions that cannot be denied. The first is that no trust of so important a character as that involved in the government of a free and intelligent people ought to be confided to the hands of ignorant or corrupt men. The second proposition is that men of African birth or descent are as a race both corrupt and ignorant. Attempt to gloss it over, as the most enthusiastic admirer of the negro may, he cannot escape the palpable fact that as a race the negro is lacking not only in mental but in moral education. It is useless for our purpose this morning to enquire into its causes, it is sufficient that such is the fact.

This being so, it needed not to expedite to teach the folly of placing the county governments in the eastern portion of our State, where the negroes most do congregate, in their hands.—There never was and never could be any doubt as to the result. Fraud and extravagance follow ignorance and corruption as surely as water follows oil.

THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION IN 1874.

The Democratic Central Committee of Missouri have adopted a resolution inviting, in behalf of the Democracy of Missouri, the National Democratic Convention of 1876 to assemble in St. Louis and pledged themselves to make ample preparations for the reception and accommodation of all who come to the place proposed for holding the Convention.

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